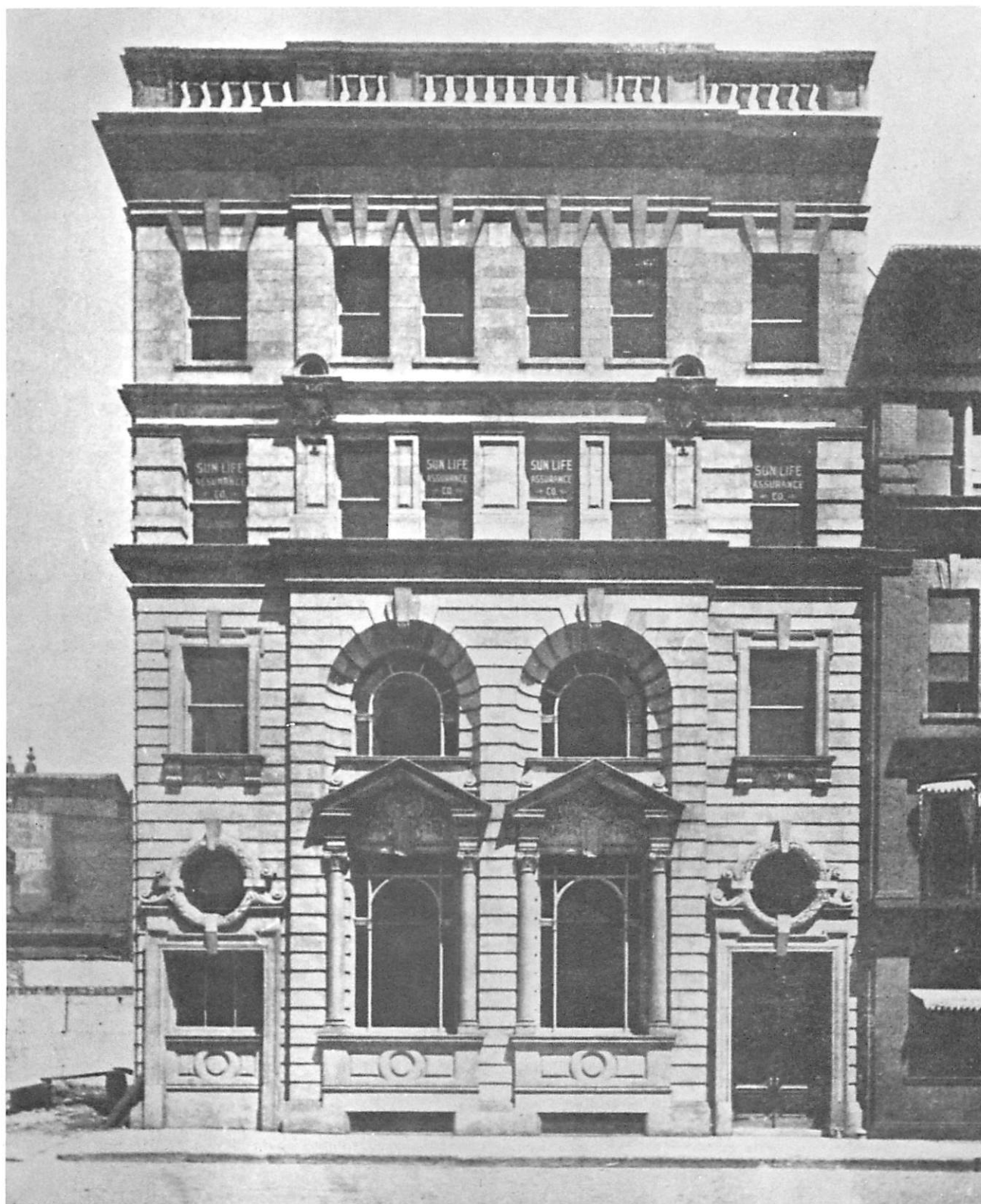


ACORN

The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario Inc. Newsletter



Summer 1986



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SUMMER 1986

The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario Inc.

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A society incorporated in 1933 for the preservation of the best examples of the architecture of the province, and for the protection of its places of natural beauty.

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EDITORIAL

Speaking Architecture

The cold, unfeeling concrete walls of the memorial to the thousands of Jews who were transported to concentration camps in Germany, speak eloquently, and as distinctly as any words can do. Built close to Notre Dame cathedral in Paris, the memorial gives its message of desolation and horror. The walls **speak** their story.

Quite differently, but still as vocal an edifice, the Musee national d'art moderne Centre Georges Pompidou, a few blocks away from the above memorial, "wears its guts on its sleeve." (Not our words, but those of the contributing editor.) It is functionalism carried to extremes, yet it works as a show place and gallery. A visitor's first view of pipes and tubes is startling. Its exposed frame could be described as an unfinished structure with the scaffolding still in place. The building has nothing to do with preserving our past. It's modern, and it reflects and **speaks** of our time. Thus has good architecture **spoken** since, and even before, the Parthenon was built.

It behooves architects to remember that what they are designing now speaks not only for the present, but for those who will hear in the future.

BRANCH NEWS FROM EAST TO WEST

PORT HOPE

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting was held at Greenwood Tower Inn on February 10th, 1986. Reports and financial statements were presented by the treasurer Kay Wilson, CN Project Treasurer, Hadley Armstrong, and House Tour Chairman, Jane Staunton. Outgoing president Susan Thomas gave her address citing the achievements of the Branch over the last year, foremost among which was the completion of the C.N. Station restoration.

The Annual Heritage Award for 1985 was presented to Bob Sanderson for his fine work in restoring the Little Bluestone to its former grandeur and for his rehabilitation of 95 and 97 Mill Street rowhousing.

The slate of officers for 1986 was presented by Jane Staunton, Nominating Committee chairman. The new executive was duly elected and incoming president, Bob Fair, chaired the remainder of the meeting. After all business was concluded, Peter John Stokes gave an interesting lecture accompanied by slides on Ontario's Architectural highlights, many of which were part of Port Hope's exceptional heritage.

On Friday, April 4th the first programme since the Annual General Meeting was held at Greenwood Tower. About 30 people turned out to hear guest speaker Bill Dendy's illustrated lecture "Architecture and the Masseys." Mr. Dendy is an architectural historian, author of *Lost Toronto* and *Toronto Observed*, and a member of the ACO Council

Advisory Committee. His topic was of particular interest to a Port Hope audience since the Massey ancestral home and the original farm equipment company was located in nearby Newcastle, and Vincent Massey's last home, Batterwood, is north of Port Hope. In addition, Mr. Massey is buried in St. Mark's Church Cemetery. Even so, we were unprepared for the incredible wealth of information Mr. Dendy presented, including a history of the Massey family, the unique relationship they had with their architects and the abundance of fine buildings they commissioned. A close look at the buildings was provided from family homes to buildings associated with education (Hart House, and Massey College); and from buildings and structures with church connections, to those associated with the family business. It was a fascinating lecture presented with impressive knowledge, sensitivity, and enthusiasm. We are sorry not to have produced a larger audience for such a worthwhile evening.

Port Hope's Heritage Conservation District Study

The LACAC sub-committee in charge of the District Study and Plan for Walton Street consists of Mel Chapel, Jane Staunton and Rod Stewart. They have been rewriting, editing and preparing the revised Study and Plan since last summer. Five copies of the final draft were submitted recently to the Ministry of Citizenship and Culture, after comments and suggestions had been received on an earlier draft. Pending budget allotment from Town Council, copies of the Study will be submitted to the Town for

approval. If the plan is accepted by Council, a by-law will be drawn up which will designate the area of Walton Street from Mill Street to Pine Street, a Heritage Conservation District, under Part V of the Ontario Heritage Act. At that point, further funding, and a concentrated effort at enhancement will be possible.

The Study is composed of detailed District townscape, and street-scape analysis. The analyses are the foundation of the resulting Plan which comprises policies for the preservation and enhancement of the area. Design guidelines for restoration, rehabilitation and construction of new buildings are included for the benefit of property owners, builders, architects, and the Review Committee who will be judging design proposals within the District.

The District Study has been a "long time in the making" since it really began with the Walton Street Study in 1978 produced by Peter John Stokes, and commissioned by the ACO. Since that time an inventory of buildings (including architectural description and history) entitled **Walton Street: From Mill to Pine**, and an inventory of significant features within the District, have been compiled.

The sub-committee has found the work challenging and rewarding, and acknowledges with great appreciation the enormous contribution made by Totten Sims Hubicki Associates and Peter John Stokes. The sub-committee is now turning its attention to the third phase of the Study — presentation to Council and public meetings. The fourth phase will be implementation. Meanwhile, it is also investigating the possibility of funding and conducting a Façade Study, which will include descriptions highlighting structural problem areas, maintenance procedures, cost breakdowns, and shopfront concepts for buildings in the commercial core. Façade Studies fall under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing.

The sub-committee of LACAC is committed to the idea of promoting preservation, and enhancement of our fine main street as an attractive, practical, desirable, and achievable goal to both property owners and the municipal government. The sub-committee has enjoyed the full support of LACAC, ACO and soon, hopefully, Town Council as well. Hats off to the Committee of three for their dedication and hard work — all in the name of volunteerism!

House Tour

The 1986 annual Port Hope House Tour will be held on Saturday, October 4th. The committee under interim chairman Jane Staunton and co-chairman Marg Spragge and A. K. Sculthorpe has been busy since January with tour plans. This year's tour posters, and order forms will be sent out by June to our ex-

tensive mailing list. The '86 Tour will highlight a variety of cottages, as well as some larger houses, St. Paul's Church, an art exhibition, and a music open house. In addition, dinner and a candlelight concert of the Toronto-based Oriana Singers will be offered by St. Mark's Church as a fund-raiser for their new organ. But, wait for your poster for details!

If you wish to be included on the House Tour mailing list, please write to ACO House Tour, Box 563, Port Hope, Ontario L1A 3Z4 (if you attended the '85 tour, you will automatically be on the mailing list). Tickets will also be available over the counter at The Magpie in mid June.

Please support our Tour since the monies raised are put towards important restoration projects in the town including the Town-View Business Centre, 25-27 Walton Street and the CN Station. We work hard for our money, but we spend it wisely!

ACO Members' Night

On May 1st the ACO guest speaker was Godfrey Spragge, a member of the Urban Planning Faculty, Queen's University and past chairman of the Frontenac Heritage Foundation. Professor Spragge gave a most informative lecture and slide presentation on research methods used to reveal the history of the former villages and communities within Kingston city limits.

The extrapolation of information gained from early tax assessment rolls and census returns provided a full and rich sociological and economic picture of the areas in question. Slides depicting past and present views of buildings in these villages brought the information to life. A discussion of the aims and mandate of the Frontenac Heritage Foundation was extremely interesting due to the similarity of its goals and the ACO's.

Volunteer Service Award

Marion Walker Garland was awarded a gold pin for her twenty years of service to the Port Hope Branch of the Architectural Conservancy of Ontario. The award was presented by The Honourable Lily Munro, the Ontario Minister of Citizenship and Culture along with awards to other volunteers in the area at the Holiday Inn in Peterborough.

May Meeting

A general meeting was held at Penryn Park on May 29. The president, Mr. Bob Fair welcomed the guest speaker, Mr. Nicholas Hill. Mr. Fair read a letter from Michael Piette of the Toronto Branch complimenting the group on its work to save the CN station. The plaque which is to be placed on the station was shown to those present. He mentioned the advantages to tradesmen in the town by the activities of the group. Mr. Hill spoke on Heritage Districts, the achievements of the branches and the

move to the Ontario Heritage Building.

Mrs. Garland mentioned her tour of that morning of a bus load of members from the Royal Ontario Museum. Another 1000 copies of Architectural Terms has been printed. This is the third printing of the little booklet. Several copies were sold to the tour members, as well as copies of Architectural Styles and the Colouring book.

DURHAM

Lynde House

Since the last issue of ACORN, there have been numerous positive developments with respect to the preservation of this 1812 house which houses the Whitby Museum (A complete description of its confused status appeared in the Spring issue.)

At the Annual Meeting of the Historical Society (which operates the Museum) three members of the ACO were elected to the Historical Society Executive. The new Executive quickly accepted the logic of doing a proper Feasibility Study and is, at the time this is being written (late May) on the verge of awarding the contract. The study will look at all of the ramifications of the problem and hopefully will give a clear direction for the future of the Museum. The steering committee which will administer the Feasibility Study includes two members of the ACO Executive.

Meanwhile, Loblaws, who own the property, have placed a very short time limit on the Society to make up its mind, but, apart from one town councillor who is intent on spreading hysteria and the local papers who consider this news, it is not viewed as a major setback. The Society has retained a lawyer to assist it with negotiations with Loblaws.

By the time this is read, the Feasibility Study will be well under way and Lynde House will be on its way to a secure future hopefully on its present (original) site.

House Tour

Once again this year we will be holding our annual House Tour, after a very successful tour of 10 homes last September, we are encouraged to announce our second House Tour for Saturday, September 20th, 1986 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. — \$10.00 a ticket.

This year, the tour will "spotlight" the founder of Whitby, 150 years ago, a gentleman known as Peter Perry. Visitors and local friends will begin the tour near the centre of Whitby — formerly known as Perry's Corners, and will conclude a few miles north at the unspoiled old town of Port Perry on the shores of Lake Scugog.

En-route, tour buffs will visit two homes in Whitby, will travel north to visit homes, farms and the mill in Brooklin and Ashburn villages, and finally to six beautiful homes in the typical old Ontario town of Port Perry. Everyone is very welcome to visit us, the Durham A.C.O. would be delighted to host all our friends once again.

Please phone the Executive 668-9691 or 668-4290 for more information.

TORONTO REGION

When K. Corey Keeble, Associate Curator of the European Department of the Royal Ontario Museum came to talk to us in February, the capacity audience was expecting a lecture on stained glass. However, Mr. Dendy preferred to wait until his book on that subject is published before revealing its contents, so instead, gave an excellent talk on church architecture. Thus, we have an excuse to ask Mr. Dendy to favour us again in the near future.

In March, Deryck Holdsworth showed us some success as well as some failures in an illustrated lecture based on his new book *Reviving Main Street*. All those in attendance will surely take a much closer look at *Main Street* as they travel through Ontario and the rest of Canada.

Fern Bayer, Curator of the Government of Ontario Art Collection was the speaker at the April meeting. She traced the history of the collection, describing the large number of purchases made by Egerton Ryerson during a trip to Europe, and the sad fate of many that were dispersed and destroyed. A large selection from the collection can be seen in the Legislative building at Queens Park.

The Annual General Meeting was held on May 29th. The evening began with a guided walking tour highlighting the architecture of the Parkdale area. Following this event a cordial hour was held at Melrose House, 32 Beaty Avenue, hosted by the owner, John Scythes. This graceful structure would not have survived without Mr. Scythes' personal intervention and commitment. Both the walking tour and the research on Melrose House were contributions from our new branch president, Alec Keefer.

The first owner of Melrose was James Smart Lockie, born in Edinburgh, Scotland in 1841. By 1874, Mr. Lockie had married Mary Andrews of U.E.L. descent, and had accepted a management position with the Canadian Bank of Commerce in Toronto. In building Melrose in Parkdale in 1879. Mr. Lockie can be said to have thrown his financial lot in with a group of like-minded entrepreneurs who were attracted to this as yet virgin country-side.



Pen and ink drawing of Melrose by Marta Scythes, sister of present owner, John Scythes.

Those who proposed and actively supported the entity called Parkdale were opposed by speculators, many non-resident, who favoured a more massive, less personal real estate development pattern.

According to William Greer of the Toronto Historical Board, the house is representative of the Italianate style with noteworthy tower, window details and brickwork. It was one of the earliest houses built by local businessmen as the Parkdale area developed. A bay window addition in 1890 reflects the later design trends of the period and relates this house to the houses built when Beaty Avenue was extensively developed in 1887. Set well back from the street it is still a distinctive building in the area.

The layout, a standard centre hall (8' x 60') plan provides across the south a spacious double drawing room 17' x 58'. This is balanced by the diningroom (17' x 22'). The remainder of the north portion, possibly library-office and a room offering kitchen access, has not been returned to its original function. There are 12' ceilings throughout. The exterior has been painted to represent the preferred bricktype and pattern. The timber in the house is truly massive and highlights the fact that one of the side lines that dominated Mr. Lockie's life was dealing in lumber. The original sections of the house have a white cut stone foundation. Later additions, example, a bay window, are supported by red sandstone.

Subsequent real estate development to the south and west have robbed the house of its relationship to King Street and Humber Bay forcing the less dramatic back door side, facing Beaty Avenue to function inappropriately as the front façade. The grand conservatory at the south west corner and the sweeping

verandahs to either side of the west tower lamentably have been replaced. At this point the dormer roof on the west tower over the original front door has not been rebuilt. Gradually all of the chimneys are being recreated and will soar as intended.

Mr. J. S. Lockie died in 1903. In John Scythes, the current owner, Melrose has at last met the match of Mr. Lockie. When Mr. Scythes saw 32 Beaty, despite its dreadful condition, he could appreciate the quality of the original construction and graceful intentions of the first owner. He has single-mindedly dedicated himself to the building's complete rebirth.

Yonge Street Study

Toronto's planning department is anxiously awaiting the first recommendations of a \$15,000 study of the Yonge Street area from Front Street to Davenport Road. Launched last summer, the study is intended to show the best uses for buildings in that area, with particular emphasis on the stretch between Carlton and Queen streets.

There are a number of buildings in the area with empty second and third floors and the study may show how they can be used to improve the Yonge Street landscape. The study is being carried out by five consultants: a planner, an architect, an historian, a financial consultant, and a developer.

Their work includes identifying building types and their uses, as well as pinpointing general building conditions, historic buildings and potential areas of mixed use occupancy. As part of the study, building codes, zoning bylaws and the city's official plan are being examined by the consultants.

News from Toronto's LACAC, the Toronto Historical Board

The Toronto Historical Board has been involved in a Heritage Policy Study and review of all matters related to heritage that come under the City of Toronto's jurisdiction. They will soon be seeking public input into this study, at which time all ACT members will be encouraged to submit any ideas they may have regarding the City's role in heritage preservation.

The Board is currently involved in overseeing archeological fieldwork on the dome site, where early waterfront-related remnants are located.

The Board is also waiting for the Council's approval of a Municipal Heritage Fund that will allow them to continue to administer a city restoration funding program to property owners of historical buildings. The Revolving Fund they formerly administered was dissolved recently. Funding for preservation work continues to be a major problem for property owners in the city of Toronto despite the fact that support for new development projects like the Dome Stadium receive quick endorsement.

The Music Building at the C.N.E. is soon to be demolished as it is considered too small to renovate cost effectively. This 1908 building was designed by the architect G. W. Gounlock as an intrinsic part of the comprehensive, early 20th century plan for the C.N.E. The Carlsberg Building (formerly the Ontario Government building) is being considered for designation by the THB. It was designed in 1926 by Architects, Chapman and Oxley. The restoration costs have been estimated at \$2.5 million

Recently recommended for designation are the Old City Hall and the former Wesley Building, 299 Queen Street West. Recently designated and being renovated with provincial funding is Masaryk Hall – formerly the Parkdale Curling Club built in 1898 at 212 Cowan Avenue.

Restorations

The Parks and Recreation Department of the City of Toronto is undertaking major improvements to Allan Gardens, 160 Gerrard Street East. As part of the project the Palm House and greenhouses are to be restored and repaired. Federal and Provincial sources of funding are being sought to support these improvements. The existing Palm House, based on British prototypes such as the Crystal Palace and the Palm House at the Royal Botanical Gardens at Kew is a significant Canadian landmark. It was designed by City Architect Robert McCallum in 1910 and has been recommended for designation for architectural reasons.

The Tip Top Tailors building on Lakeshore Road West is being renovated and restored inside and out. Work on the six-storey factory, built in 1929 by the Dunkelmann family for use as Tip Top Tailors' factory and offices, is expected to total \$2.7 million.

Exterior renovations to the head office of Dylex Ltd., a major clothing company is being conducted by Day Restorations Inc. The exterior walls have been sandblasted, coated with cement, and broken or cracked areas have been repaired. The decorative work is being restored and windows have been replaced with double-glazed versions. Interior renovations, which will include the installation of new elevators and redesigning office space, is expected to total \$2.3 million. Curtner Brown Architects, the firm restoring the building have retained the art deco character of the interior lobby. The project should be completed by the end of the summer.

Union Station is 59 years old but a \$3.5 million facelift sponsored by VIA Rail makes her look much younger. The towering exterior wall and Corinthian columns, each weighing 75 tons, have been cleaned to reveal a soft grey sheen. Designed in the classical Beaux Arts style by Toronto architect John Lyle, the Great Hall is considered to be the largest, and pos-

sibly the finest hall in North America. There can be seen the names of old Canadian railway stops perched high on the Great Hall walls. On one wall they begin with Prince Albert, Edmonton, Saskatoon, Winnipeg. On the opposite wall is Fredericton, Quebec, Montreal, and Hamilton. Port Arthur still exists at Union Station and Sault Ste. Marie is still misspelled Sault St. Marie. The names are not carved in stone, but are part of a large mould. The hollow plaster cornice gently curves upward to meet the newly polished earth tones of the Great Hall's 88-foot-high Italian tile ceiling. At each end, light streams through four-storey-high pebbled glass windows. The west wing has been brightened by the replacement of a skylight that has been covered for many years. At the departure level, look up to an elaborately framed window. Layers of paint have been removed so that trains lumbering by on Track One are visible.

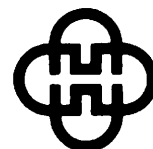
Memorial – Thomas R. Robson

A former ACT member and active preservationist has recently passed away. Tom was a 1981 graduate of the University of Toronto's faculty of Architecture and recipient of the Heritage Canada Award. He contributed much to the preservation field, including the preparation of measured drawings for the Pressed Metal Building. He served on the Executive of the ACT and was responsible for its award program. He also made a considerable contribution to the research and restoration of Holy Trinity Church. A Curriculum Vitae is to follow in a later issue of ACORN.

Funeral Services were held March 1st at Holy Trinity Church. A special Memorial Fund has been established and all contributions made will go to ACT.

HERITAGE CAMBRIDGE

An Opportunity Missed



As recognized by the late Professor Gordon Couling of the University of Guelph, "The principal business streets of Hespeler, Preston and Galt owe much of their local character to the fine stone business blocks which still survive. These are the oldest and most distinguished architectural features in the shopping and commercial centres of the communities".

18 Main Street is part of the stock of split granite buildings for which the stone masons of Galt are justly famous. In a rare example of co-operation, the estate of John Miller, first solicitor of North Dumfries Township, and Hugh Cant, later Mayor of Galt, built



18 Main St., Galt (Cambridge)

adjoining commercial buildings the upper façades of which formed a single design unit. Italianate styling produced bracketed eaves and a row of round arched windows embellished with highly decorative metal hood moulds. A cut limestone string course spans the two buildings while roof parapets supported by locally rare carved limestone corbels mark their limits. The storefronts were modified at some later



18 Main St., Galt (Cambridge)

date, but that at number 18 retained its two double entrances. Unfortunately, number 18 was never designated although its Siamese twin was.

Cambridge LACAC became aware that a new tenant had taken over the building when contractor Bob Seabrook contacted LACAC co-ordinator Gary Sosnoski. The client, Big V Drugstores, had a building permit for major alterations, and unexpected structural work was required. The City's Building Department advised Bob Seabrook to find out if the property was a candidate for designation and hence funding assistance. Gary immediately viewed the building and the plans and was alarmed by the proposed changes to the storefront. He contacted Big V,

urging them to have the building owner apply for designation. It looked like a good candidate for a Corporate Sector Grant and a visit from the Ministry of Citizenship and Culture representative confirmed this assessment.

Cambridge Council only in very exceptional circumstances will designate a property without the owner's consent. In the long delay before that was received, work continued on the building. The store front reconstruction went ahead and we saw the opportunity for a return to something closer to the original design slip away. In the meantime, LACAC was pleading for signage which would be in sympathy with the building's historic character. When a site visit was made by LACAC to complete the building report for designation, it was discovered that the dormers had been removed from the roof to facilitate re-roofing. The big blue sign was still to come.

The designation application was brought before LACAC May 15th. The committee was divided on the issue: about half felt the property should be



22 Main St., Galt (Cambridge)

Photo by Lavern Asmussen 1977

designated to preserve what was left. After all, Big V hadn't altered the upper façade and had in fact, spruced up the trim with white paint. The other half felt that to designate under the circumstances would make a mockery of what LACAC was trying to

achieve. A motion to designate the upper façade only was defeated and the recommendation sent to Council that the application be turned down. What might have been a demonstration project of an historic storefront reconstruction turned into a disappointment for everyone.

Could this have been avoided?

Yes, had Big V been aware of the existence of heritage funding for restoration prior to drafting their plans, a more sympathetic treatment of the façade might have resulted.

The good news is that Bob Seabrook will be the contractor for another Big V conversion in Owen Sound and has contacted their LACAC already.

BRANT COUNTY

General Meeting March 1986

An interested group gathered at the West Centre Apartments, 11 West Street, for a tour of the structure sponsored by the Brant County Branch. The structure once an industrial building housing the Buck Stove Works, (1856-60), where cast iron, potbelly and later steel stoves were made, later housed Dominion Sign in the mid-30's, and served as a warehouse for Jelco until 1977.

Purchased in 1984 by Mr. Peter Hexamer, the building was converted into 11 apartments for the disabled, each containing 500 square feet of space, low sinks and counters for wheelchair convenience, plenty of central space, wide doors and bathrooms, and a lowered window sill to suit the convenience of the residents. Other features are roll-in showers, large closets, and community laundry and storage areas, as well as wheelchair-accessible doors and an elevator.

The style and strength of the building appealed to Mr. Hexamer, as well as its exterior appearance when he considered its possible use for residents with physical disabilities. Italianate in concept, with decorative cornice brickwork, the windows are arranged in three bays or sections at the front, with a central door currently enlarged and emphasized. Brick buttresses divide the bays. In earlier days these were used as chimneys and vents in several locations.

Mr. Hexamer was presented with a framed award letter of commendation for re-cycling an older commercial structure by Donald Pettitt a past president of the Brant County Conservancy.

Following the tour of the West Centre Apartments refreshments and a slide show, as well as brief Conservancy business took place at Participation House on Bell Lane. Mr. and Mrs. Harold Gallant were in charge of refreshments, while Violet Fair, assisted by Audrey Scott, showed slides of decorative bargeboards.

The latter are pierced or voluted wooden frames for gables, (in Europe on buildings of Gothic design; in Canada, on Neo-gothic, some classical and Neo-Romanesque (Italianate) styled buildings). The "Queen Anne" or eclectic style common late in the 19th century, also boasted many differing examples of bargeboards. Anthony Adamson, in his "Gaiety of Gables", identifies three categories of gables; the Mediaeval copy (c.1830 - 50) the "inside-outside" bargeboard and gable with outside design echoing interior construction (c.1850s-70s), and the "outside-inside" bargeboard in which the gable is constructed to show off the bargeboard. (c.1870s-1900)

A variety of slides, many local and many from Ridgeway, amply demonstrated Mr. Adamson's premise. Miss Fair's selection included later patterned gables with plain bargeboards; diamond patterns wheels and sunbursts were common local design motifs. Colours were emphasized; brilliant, as in the turquoise example at 135 Sydenham; black and white, as for several examples on the outskirts of St. George.

Miss Fair pointed out that the types of buildings decorated by bargeboards were not restricted to houses. Schools were sometimes so decorated, as were industrial buildings and even barns.

For "gable-watchers" in Brantford, interesting "gingerbread" (the vernacular word for all types of decorative trim) can be found at 97 Brant, 171 Wellington, 22 Nelson, 99 West, 100 West, 74 Dufferin, 84 Dufferin, 95, 97 Dufferin.



Eadie-Wilson house

A survey of Mount Pleasant Road near the John Noble home to Maple Grove Corners was possible in 1986 in conjunction with a driving tour and tour of four structures in the village. The event was a money-raising venture by the Brant County Branch. Over sixty properties were studied and recorded on a map used for the driving tour. Properties of major interest

include those here described. The Howard Wilson house near the Fish Hatchery was built by Andrew Eadie early in the 1800's. An armouries on the site was apparently burnt in 1814 during the War of 1812, as were many of the homes in the community, which was established by Captain Amos Sturgis and Henry Ellis about 1799. The home has been both modernized and restored; eighteen inch woodwork in the parlour is complemented throughout the house with antique pieces and door mouldings, as well as eight inch wide floor boards, in a warm maple tone.

Near the Wilson home is the Fernandez residence, built about 1863 in an Italianate style by Mr. Lloyd Jones. This imposing home was formerly a social centre for the village. It has Neo-Renaissance architectural details such as brackets, a frontspiece with low pediment and frieze, curved window-heads over imposing double windows in three bays. The main feature is a recessed door with transom and side lights.

The Herbert Biggar home (Biggar was the first M.P.P. for the area) now owned by the Leslie family, is a brick cottage in the Loyalist style with five bays, a hipped roof and multi-mullioned windows. There are tall side chimneys and an imposing front door complex. This home could have been built about 1825.



Townsend-Knoll house

The Knoll home, built by Alvah Townsend about 1845, has five bays in the Georgian style. There are a string course, curved gable quarter windows, an imposing front door, and portico pillars with Ionic volutes.

Abraham Cooke built "Brucefield", named by Lord Elgin, about the same time. This Loyalist style home retains much of its detail. Tall lower windows are emphasized by lintels and sills. The original

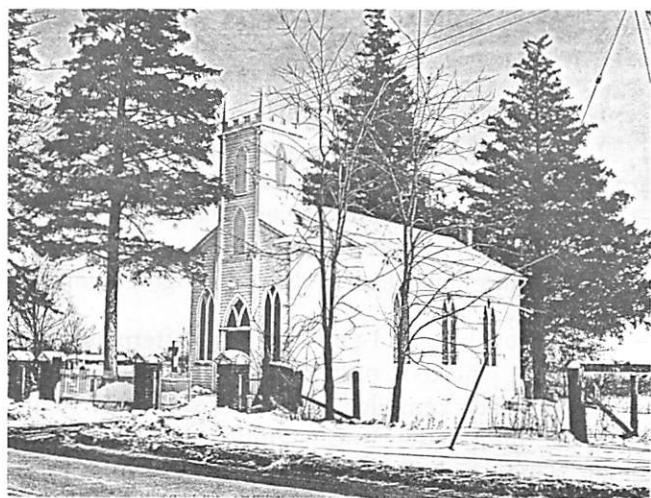
verandahs have disappeared, as has an upper portico with pediment on the second floor. But the lower portico and fine proportions of the home remain. There are also a number of frame structures in the village built about 1830, but disguised with siding, strip shutters, or altered windows.

Built later in the nineteenth century, the Shaw home with its rectangular façade, full-width verandah and double upper windows with semi-circular hood-moulds is an imposing structure. The Summerton home is also an imposing Italianate residence set in beautiful grounds. There is a two storey front bay window, and an imposing entrance with enclosing portico.

The Neo-Gothic style is well represented on Mount Pleasant Road. An example in brick is the R. McAlister home on the former Phelps tract on Maple Avenue. This complex of buildings includes a board-and-batten coach house with loft, a rear wing, and the main house which has a centre-hall plan. There is emphasis on the main door here enclosed in a later verandah. Salient features are the voluted bargeboards surrounding the centre peak and the wider side gable, as well as brackets and trim around a side bay window.

Another outstanding Neo-Gothic house is the J. Azzopardi home. Horizontal in emphasis, there is also a central gable of medium slope which contains a small upper window and well-designed bargeboard. With centre-hall plan, the house has a fine trim along the front verandah cornice with spool and fretwork design.

Built by Richard Tennant, "Grey Gables", now the Heritage Inn, is an exceptional eight-sided Neo-Gothic addition to the Village. This 1840 structure was covered with groat brought from Scotland.



All Saints Anglican Church

The driving tour was preceded by a slide show on the village with photographs by Agnes Whittaker. Violet Fair's essay on bargeboards was also shown. Tea was served by the ladies of All Saints Anglican Church. Artifacts in connection with the church (including cornerstone memorabilia dug up during excavations for the Church Hall in the basement) were displayed, along with items from the Branch collection.

Other events connected with "Heritage Happenings" were tours of the former Mount Pleasant Railway Station, moved, preserved and restored by the



Gordon Merritt Station

Gordon Merritts (exterior), and tours of Heritage Inn and both Anglican and United Churches. Alan Scott, branch president, presented an award for restoration and preservation to Mr. Ewart Biggar who represented the Anglican Church, and to Mr. Robert Macaulay, who represented the United Church. The Anglican Church, in a Neo-Gothic style, has returned eaves on a frontpiece and a truncated, crenellated tower. It was built of wood in 1845 and dedicated in 1854 by Bishop Strachan.

The United Church, a brick building erected in 1869 in a Neo-Romanesque style (John Turner was architect) has ogee-shaped roof beams and round-arched ends to pews and decoration on the gallery rail. A larger church than the Anglican, of five bays, it at one time housed a Methodist congregation.

An enjoyable and informative afternoon was spent by all who took part in "Heritage Happenings". Convenor and compiler was Audrey Scott while historical information was supplied by Pat Phelps, Linda Guest, Audrey Guest, Robert Macaulay, Gordon Merritt, Helen Brown and the Late Margaret Smyth, to whom the Branch is also indebted for photographs.



LONDON REGION

The official opening of the Monseigneur Feeney Centre for Catholic Education on March 23, 1986 by Bishop W. J. Sherlock of the London Diocese was attended by Premier David Peterson, M.P.P. Joan Smith and many other dignitaries of church, politics and local associations.

As one of his last acts as Chairman of the Heritage Foundation, Mr. John White presented a plaque under the Ontario Heritage Act. Mr. Carlos Fenton, the Restoration Architect for the project, was complimented for the outstanding work done on restoring not only the outside of the building but the main entrance hall, stairways and assembly hall. The London Branch of the Architectural Conservation Association, represented by the President, Mrs. Julia Beck, was recognized and thanked for the donation of the chandeliers and pedestal lights donated by the branch. The restoration of this lovely high Victorian building, formerly the Normal School, saved an outstanding historical and architectural heritage building of London.

On March 4 the London Branch held their monthly meeting in the Board Room of the Monseigneur Feeney Centre, and Carlos Fenton the architect was the speaker. Not only did he give an interesting informative talk on the restoration but included other projects in the area.

On February 4 Mr. John Lutman, one of our members and author of a number of books on London, gave us an illustrated Architectural Survey of Boston. Mr. Lutman has family ties in Boston and not only was it interesting but left an impression with the audience that one should look around more and see the outstanding examples of varied industrial buildings, churches and homes in our towns and cities.

In April we had a talk by Mr. Tom Whealy of Decade Development, who purchased the Hayman Court Apartments at the corner of Queen's and Wellington Street. The apartment complex was built in three stages and if not the first, they were certainly one of the earliest apartment buildings in London. Mr. Whealy gutted the inside of the building to create the condominiums but very faithfully maintained the exteriors. He is to be commended in restoring the old building and preserving a beautiful landmark in the centre of London.

On May 13 Margaret Beckman, co-author of the beautiful book *"The Best Gift"* gave us an illustrated talk on Carnegie Libraries in Ontario. Not only did she give us a history of the Carnegie Library Foundation and the principal administrator of the Foun-

dation, Mr. James Bertram, who is buried in Seaforth, she also gave us a wonderful insight into the style and types of buildings which were approved to be built as libraries. Mr. Bertram married a Janet Ewing of Seaforth. He spent most of his life in New York managing the foundation, but requested to be buried at Seaforth in the Maitland Bank Cemetery.

On the weekend of May 9, 10 and 11 a group of business owners, headed by Mrs. Ann Lindsay of Ann McColl's Ltd. and Margaret McLean of Crabtree & Evelyn of Canada, organized a "Spring Heritage Festival" walking tour, "Building London's future through a celebration of its past". Many owners and organizations, such as the City Parks Department, Fanshawe Park Commission, the Goatshead Dance Group (Morris Dancers) all contributed to making what is hoped to be an annual affair. The London Branch contributed by researching the history of many of the buildings highlighted in the walk. The walk started at the Grand Theatre on Richmond Street, the interior of which retains much of the original appearance, dating back to 1901. One could take a carriage ride for the several block circuit and stop off and view the many historical buildings, such as the Labatt's Restoration, Eldon House, The Marshall Tea Company building, the Talbot Street block which is threatened by demolition, Ann McColl's, The Common Market and many other buildings, or view the Morris Dancers around the Maypole erected in Ivey Park at the fork of the Thames.

"Interiors '86", an annual designers' showcase sponsored by the Orchestra London, chose an old historical London Home on Grand Ave., "Idlewyld", built in 1878 by the prominent businessman and politician Charles S. Hyman. The home has been restored to an Inn which offers a complementary continental breakfast and rooms furnished with selected antique furnishings, and retaining much of the old panelling and woodwork.

NORTH WATERLOO REGION

The annual meeting of our branch took place at Woodside National Historic Park, the restored boyhood home of William Lyon Mackenzie King, in Kitchener on Tuesday, May 6.

Our speaker, Terry Kobayashi, an art teacher at Eastwood Collegiate, gave an illustrated lecture on "Lawn Architecture". There were numerous examples of very fine bird houses, many of them from McCauley Heritage Park in Picton. Whirlygigs decorated some lawns and wooden bears held up rural mailboxes. People's imagination found expression in brightly painted fences and barn doors, some with geometric designs. One resident of rural Manitoba has modelled

a village in his native Russia and puts it on display on his lawn each summer. The welder's art was not forgotten and pieces of long unused agricultural implements became an interesting iron fence. Terry's lighthearted presentation and her often amusing slides provided the audience with many a chuckle.

ACO President, Nicholas Hill, outlined the future aims of the society and discussed fund raising projects.

The following directors were elected for 1986-87. President: Herb Whitney; Directors: Pat Albright, Joyce Arndt, Olive Bolton, Eleanor Currie, Sandy Dare, Bea Kennedy, Joye Krauel, Marg and Bob Rowell, Pat Wagner, and David White.

House Tours

Our Spring House Tour began on Wednesday, May 7th. The first of five homes was the residence of Dr. and Mrs. Phil Voelker on 36 Young Street West, Waterloo. Built in 1849 this charming Gothic home had been somewhat neglected by 1940 when Dr. and Mrs. Voelker bought it. With the help of Dr. Voelker's brother Charles, an architectural designer, renovations to the home were made including structural improvements.

The bay windows at the front were probably altered from the original windows. The centre window of the right bay became a door to Dr. Voelker's office. The centre hall plan has a lovely cherry newel and stair railing leading upstairs. The large livingroom on the left has a bay window which is thought to be a later addition. The antique furnishings and the extensive collection of cranberry glass makes a beautiful interior. The four bedrooms upstairs are suitably furnished with antiques, and lovely handmade quilts cover the beds. The master bedroom is painted a striking dark green colour. The exterior of the house has had the gothic window and barge-board replaced in the front gable.



Voelker House, Young St. W., Waterloo



Richardson House, Cambridge

Richardson House

On May 13th we visited the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Richardson in Cambridge. This stately Greek Revival residence is situated on nearly two acres of land bordering the Grand River at the rear, with the golf club on the left. Our tour began with a walk around the grounds to view the wild flowers and a walk to the high bank overlooking the river with Canada geese and a great blue heron in it.

The home was built in the first quarter of this century as a storey and one-half Cape Cod cottage with dormers and a slate roof. In 1967 the former owners had Napier B. Simpson Jr. draw up plans for the renovation that added the pediment and the columns as well as building all the exterior walls out, thus enlarging the original house considerably. The generous front hall leads to the library and the living-room with its French doors that open to a large covered deck which affords a view of the lovely grounds and the river. A hall goes off this entrance to the right to the guest suite. A family room, a spacious dining room and a large kitchen across the back with access to the deck complete the first floor. The front stairs were removed and an elevator was inserted to serve the two stories plus basement apartment. A rear stairs from a back hall also provide access to all floors. The upstairs consists of three bedrooms plus a sewing room and a toy room. The ensuite master bedroom occupies the pediment.

In the next issue of ACORN we will describe the remaining three houses on the tour.

Marg Rowell

GENERAL CONSERVANCY NEWS

CONSERVATION COMMENT

THE CONSERVATION OF HISTORIC LANDSCAPES

Edited by Nicholas Hill

The Carolinian Canada Project Encouraging Landowners To Preserve The Natural Heritage

This second article on the conservation of landscapes will review a remarkable project aimed at preserving valuable natural landscapes. Called the Carolinian Canada project, it is named for a habitat similar to the Carolina states and embraces the region south of a Toronto-to-Grand Bend, on Lake Huron line. Once thick with luxuriant deciduous woods, the area has been cleared of 90 per cent of its forest in the past 150 years, a process that continues today.

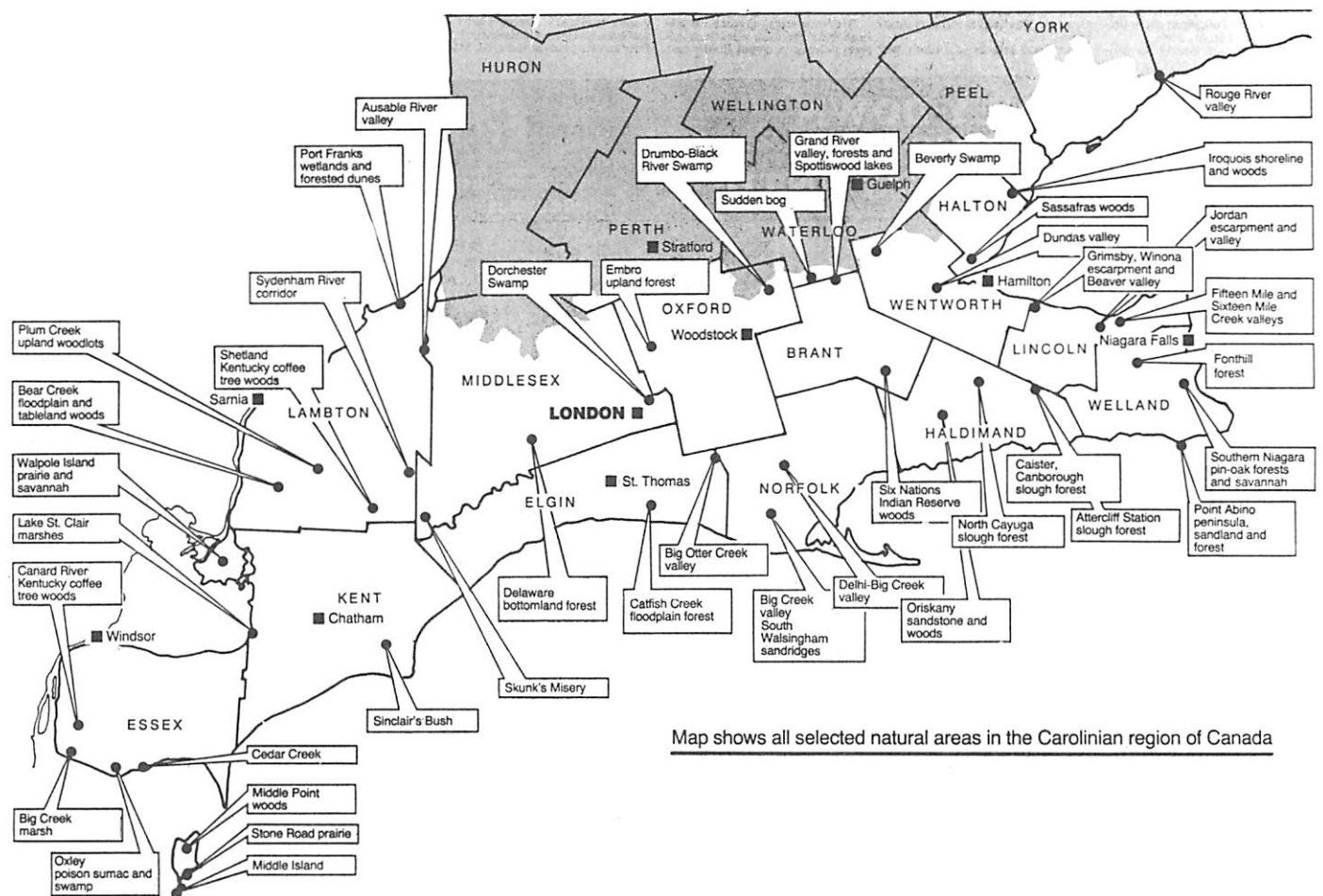
The areas tagged for protection range from a four-hectare (10-acre) stand of Kentucky coffee trees in Lambton County to the 92,000-hectare (227,240-acre) range of the Six Nations and New Credit Indian reserves, the single largest block of Carolinian forest in Canada. The precious flora includes a single specimen of the provincially rare American chestnut tree, discovered at the end of a Horseback trail on a 30-metre (100-foot) bluff overlooking Catfish Creek. It also takes in the spectacular flowering expanses of the rare nodding wild onion of the Pelee Island prairie.

After two years of work, the Carolinian Canada project — headed by The World Wildlife Fund Canada and the Nature Conservancy of Canada and financed by the Ivey Foundation of London and the Ontario Heritage Foundation — has come up with a short list for preservation in one of Canada's most threatened habitats.

The article that follows was written by Jane Foy, a staff reporter for the London Free Press and appeared on April 28, 1986.

"Persuading private landowners to take on a primary role in preserving threatened natural habitats marks a major new conservation thrust by World Wildlife Fund Canada.

Fund co-ordinator Steven Price says the conservation group is establishing a national heritage stewardship award program — similar to heritage farm awards — to recognize individual initiatives in conservation, a sort of badge of honor for these private stewards of the natural national treasures. Other plans include setting up a habitat protection fund to buy environmentally significant sites where it becomes obvious the owner gives conservation low,



if any, priority.

The two new programs are a fallout from the Carolinian Canada project, a study of the unique flora and fauna of Southwestern Ontario which led to the identification of 36 specific sites (and 11 alternatives) as critically in need of protection. The two-year project, initially scheduled to end in May, was led by the World Wildlife Fund and the Nature Conservancy of Canada with \$400,000 in financing from the Ivey Foundation and Ontario Heritage Foundation.

With 90 per cent of the region's native deciduous forest cleared, the unprotected sites selected are what Price call "the best of the rest."

The Carolinian zone, so-called for its similarity to the southern habitat of the Carolina states, covers the area south of a line from Grand Bend to Toronto. It harbors 79 per cent of Ontario's endangered species and its unique southern habitat is considered one of the most threatened environments in Canada.

The Carolinian Canada project set out to pick priority habitats and then go about preserving them. There is an urgency to that goal because already the status of the selected habitats is changing.

One forest, unique in its composition because it grows in the soils of a unique outcrop of Oriskany sandstone in Ontario (a geological feature usually

associated with New York State), has already been sold and is being used for cattle grazing. On the other hand, a patch of Pelee Island prairie has been bought by the Federation of Ontario Naturalists.

Although the Carolinian Canada project was to end in May, Price said an intense effort will be made this year to reach some kind of accord with the largely private landowners on all the selected sites. "Between them, they have the best of Carolinian habitat left," says Price.

The approach involves talking and walking owners through their valued habitat and encouraging them to feel part of a special group of landowners involved in an important heritage project. Failing a pledge of preservation from the owner, the site will be added to an acquisition list for possible future purchase.

Price said response to the concept of private stewardship has been "extremely encouraging," with more than 80 per cent of landowners on the list approached so far "delighted and willing to learn more." And so far that adds up to 320 landowners on 16 of the selected sites, comprising 8,400 hectares (20,700 acres).

The positive response "reinforced our bent for private stewardship," says Price.

The bent derives partly from the fact these

threatened habitats still exist in a condition worth conserving and must mean the owners have done something right, whether purposefully or not. "Let's learn a lesson in how they have been protected."

For example, use as a sugar bush can mean preservation of a rich maple-dominated forest.

Another point in favor of private stewardship is the inability of governments or conservation groups to buy up threatened habitats in time to prevent further deterioration, he said. "If we wait until the money is available, the habitat will be gone."

Private preserves offer almost the same level of protection without the prohibitive costs of acquisition.

Government ownership and administration of all natural habitats "is not the right way, anyway," Price says. Just as diversity gives strength in nature, so variety of ownership and management will strengthen the conservation system.

The conservation lobby is also pressing for tax breaks for landowners who set aside sites of "provincial and national significance," Price said. "It's what we call untaxing nature."

Another outcome of the Carolinian Canada project has been the establishment of the Natural Heritage League, a permanent association of groups interested in habitat protection, including the provincial natural resources ministry.

Price says the league symbolizes the new co-operative approach to conservation in the 1990s. He says environmental issues used to be polarized with league members, particularly government ministries, often taking different sides.

"That's not the way any more. It's quite a new tone".

QUEEN ANNE ARCHITECTURE

So That's It

Were you not asking, as most of us have, what lay behind the "Queen Anne Style", or Queen Anne Revival, as a description for the gabled extravaganzas often with shingled decoration, balconies and porches, built in the late nineteenth century? So we quote from *A Dictionary of Architecture and Building* (Volume III) by Russell Sturgis, published 1901 New York by The MacMillan Company, as follows:

"QUEEN ANNE ARCHITECTURE. The architecture existing in England during the short reign of Anne, 1702 to 1714. The more important structures of the reign were generally the completion of designs fixed in all of their parts before her accession, and but little that was monumental was begun in her time. Wren's work upon Greenwich Hospital and Hampton Court was still going on, and he built many churches in London and elsewhere, of which S. Bride's Fleet Street, is a good example. The most

elaborate single building begun in Anne's reign was Blenheim, the palace by Sir John Vanbrugh, built by the nation for the Duke of Marlborough. The buildings which are especially associated with the style are the minor country houses and many houses in the suburbs of London, built frequently of red brick, and characterized by sculpture in relief, moulded or carved in the same material. A certain picturesqueness of treatment, like a revival of Elizabethan, or even of mediaeval styles, in mass, in sky line, and in such details as chimneys, gables, and dormer windows, is noticeable in these; and, although all is on the same moderate scale, and nothing is very massive or imposing, the style has considerable attraction when applied to dwelling houses. It was this character of the buildings of Anne's reign which caused their acceptance by some architects of the years from 1865 to 1885, in England, as types for modern designing, and country houses of this character were built in considerable numbers. A feeble imitation of these modern buildings was also attempted in the United States, but usually on a very small scale, and with such inappropriate materials as those used in the ordinary frame constructions."

— R.S.

The last sentence is particularly revealing for it was the opinion of Russell Sturgis, a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects. If only Queen Anne had known of this North American misconstruction she might well have turned in her grave.

Annual General Meeting

On Saturday, May 10, an ACO instigated LACAC Conference was held at the Royal Botanical Gardens, under the direct support of the Ministry of Citizenship and Culture. Speakers included Sheila Larmer, Supervisor, Architectural and Heritage Planning of the Ministry; Dr. Gary Davidson, Planner, Huron County; Alderperson Janice Brewer, Michael McClelland of the Toronto Historical Board; Mrs. A. K. Sculthorpe, Port Hope LACAC, and Dr. and Mrs. D. C. Fayle, Richmond Hill.

On Sunday, May 11, 40 members of the ACO enjoyed a walk in Dundas with Ann Gillespie, Research Assistant, Hamilton LACAC, Brian Reid, President Dundas Heritage Assn., and John Addison, Regional Councillor and former LACAC representative.

The Annual General Meeting took place in the Bay Room of the Sheraton Hamilton, in Hamilton, on May 11. The president, Mr. Nicholas Hill, opened the meeting, welcoming members, naming those from Hamilton Branch. Mr. Douglas McPhie gave his treasurer's report and financial statement, followed by

the president's report. Mr. Hill touched upon his visits to the branches, the treasurer's handbook, the Heritage Fund, Branch Communiques, the ACORN magazine Grant Increase, the ACORN Endowment Fund, the Advisory Board Meeting, ACO/LACAC Partnership, the Ontario Heritage Centre, the ACO Brochure, ACORN magazine, ACO Directory and Activities 1985-1986. Concluding his talk, Mr. Hill thanked the Council members for their continued support of the Conservancy. Mr. Howard Walker made a motion to re-elect the present Council for the forthcoming year, which was approved. Mr. McPhie's motion to appoint the same auditors was approved. Mrs. Garland, editor of ACORN, spoke briefly. Mrs. Sculthorpe spoke on the low level radio active disposal site at Wesleyville, or another nearby site yet to be determined. Mr. Scott, of the Brant County Branch spoke on their forthcoming tour. Thanks were given by Mr. John McFarland to Mrs. Donna Baker for arranging the meeting. A member of the London Branch spoke of the June 1st walking tour. Mrs. Sculthorpe mentioned that Peter Stokes's bus tour was cancelled and that it would take place next year. Mr. Stokes spoke regarding the Niagara Power Company Generating Station.

After the meeting, Carel Kippers of the Hamilton Branch took members on a tour of the central core of Hamilton to Whitehern.

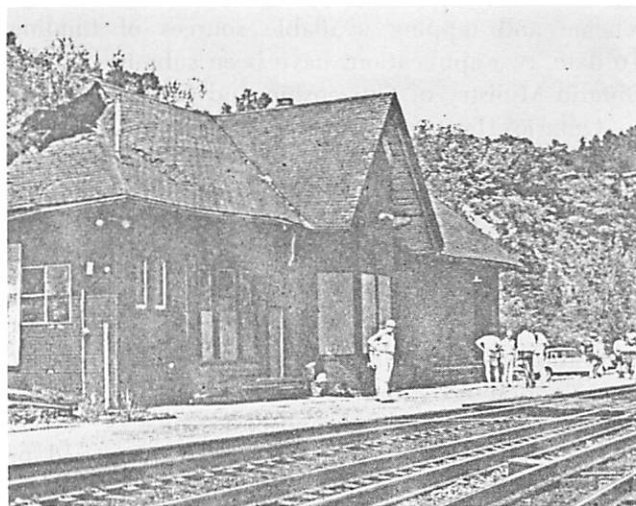
The two days were coordinated by Donna Baker.

Annual General Meeting – Dundas Walk

On Sunday, May 11, a walking tour of Dundas was conducted by members of the Dundas Heritage Association (Brian Reid, Ann Gillespie, John Farnan and Paul Zarek) and Councillor John Addison for ACO members attending the Annual General Meeting in Hamilton. We had an unexpectedly good turnout (estimated at over 30), due no doubt to glorious weather.

On our next visit to Dundas we also recommend driving up to the old CNR station, located off Highway 8 part-way up the escarpment. This site offers a splendid view over the Dundas Valley and was once enhanced by an attractive railway station. The dilapidated and fire-damaged structure which now stands abandoned beside a new VIA Rail passenger shelter was at one time a very busy mainline station and a handsome example of Ontario railway architecture.

Built in 1901 by the Grand Trunk Railway, the Dundas Station housed both passenger and freight facilities in a long one-story wooden building. Representative of the frame depots erected by this company around the turn-of-the-century, the station combined rational planning with picturesque elements characteristic of the Queen Anne style. Although Grand Trunk



Dundas Station

The old Dundas CNR Station and the new VIA Rail "bus shelter", July 1985.
Photo by Ann Gillespie



GTR Station and The Peak, Dundas, Ont.

stations of similar design were once commonplace in this province, there are now few surviving examples. In recent years, a significant number have been lost to the wrecker's ball. The Dundas Station has narrowly escaped this fate on more than one occasion since being heavily damaged by fire in September 1984, and is still on the endangered list.

Over the past year, the executive of the Dundas Heritage Association has fought energetically to save this local landmark and give it a new lease on life. While the immediate threat of demolition has been removed, the future of the Dundas Station remains uncertain. CN finally agreed in late December 1985 to allow the station to be restored at its present location (on company property), provided that it was used strictly as a waiting room for VIA Rail passengers. Since then the Heritage group has directed

its efforts towards developing a viable restoration scheme and tapping available sources of funding. To date, two applications have been submitted to the Ontario Ministry of Citizenship and Culture, one for an Ontario Heritage Foundation Capital Grant and the other for a C.F.I.P. (Community Facilities Improvement Program) Grant. In order to complete successfully these applications, the services of Anthony Butler Architect Inc. were engaged. Anthony Butler and Robert Brough prepared plans and elevations of both the existing building and the proposed restoration, as well as a written report which included an evaluation of the building's condition, a description of the recommended work and cost estimates.

Regrettably, a good opportunity was missed on the morning of the Dundas walking tour to show ACO members the now derelict CNR station, along with historical photographs and drawings of the original Grand Trunk station and the architect's restoration proposal. We had hoped to take the group up to the Dundas station after the walking tour but it was impossible to fit this visit into our tight schedule. It therefore seems an appropriate time to inform the Conservancy at large that yet another SOS (Save-Our-Station) campaign is underway in the province and to bring members up-to-date with the on-going efforts of the Dundas Heritage Association to preserve our town's historic train station.

We are hopeful that the Dundas Station is destined for "protection" rather than "oblivion". If successfully rehabilitated with many of its original features restored, the old station building would provide a much more comfortable and attractive waiting area for VIA Rail passengers than the aluminum-and-plexiglass structure in current use; it would also recreate an important link with our past, reviving fond memories of the Dundas Station in more active days; and it would once again be an architectural asset to its magnificent escarpment setting.

For further information about the Dundas Heritage Association and the Dundas Station restoration project, please contact Brian Reid, President (627-1990) or Colin Mercer, Secretary (627-7712). P.O. Box 8312, Dundas, Ontario L9H 5G1.

Peter John Stokes' Fall Bus Tour

Saturday, October 18th, to Collingwood and area via the Mulmur Mills hoping for the best colour. This trip will continue along the Southern shore of Georgian Bay and back through towns like Shelburne and Orangeville. The routes will be varied and not always along familiar or well travelled highways. Price \$140.00 includes all meals and overnight accommodation and bus fare.

Reservation \$50.00 by September 18th and final

payment October 6th 1986. Sorry, no money refunded after this date.

Send reservations or inquiries to:

The Architectural Conservancy of Ontario Inc.,
720 Spadina Ave., Ste. 12,
Toronto, Ontario M5S 2T9
(416) 928-2085

or

Mrs. A. K. Sculthorpe,
R.R. #3,
Port Hope, Ontario L1A 3V7
(416) 885-6960

Ontario Heritage Centre

The Canadian Birkbeck Investment & Saving Company building was erected in 1909, to the design of G. W. Gouinlock, Architect, at 10 Adelaide Street East in Toronto. It is an interesting surviving example of an early twentieth century financial house combining public banking halls on the ground floor and mezzanine, a second floor board room and executive offices, and general offices on the upper floors. The interior is largely intact architecturally with most of the room layouts, plasterwork and glazed partitions and doors in their original location and condition.

Purchased recently by the Ontario Heritage Foundation the intention is to provide low cost office space for provincial heritage groups, a boardroom and related space for the Foundation itself and general office rental space on the upper floors. The Architectural Conservancy Council has indicated interest in taking office space. The building will be known as the Ontario Heritage Centre.

It is constructed of a steel frame and structural clay tile 'fireproof' floor arches and partitions. The exterior walls are faced with buff brick on the rear and side elevations and on the Adelaide Street façade and laneway return with stone masonrywork.

It is intended that the building be repaired and restored to its original appearance both internally and externally. The front face of the building is seriously deteriorated due to lack of maintenance. The masonrywork is notable as it is principally cast 'artificial' stone manufactured by the Canadian Art Stone Company Limited, formerly of Price Street, Toronto. There are numerous elements of Ohio sandstone throughout the cast stone masonry, apparently used for the more complicated carved decoration and at weatherings and sills. The sheet metal cornice is in very poor condition and many elements have been removed. They are to be restored to the original profiles.

The interior is particularly interesting as the main floor halls and upper corridors are fitted with oak-

stained, pine, glazed corridor partitions and doors. Floors are generally finished with tongued and grooved quarter-cut maple strips laid over sleepers with corridors finished in terrazzo, trimmed with marble baseboarding. The skylit (and previously open) main staircase is constructed of cast iron framing with marble treads and landings. Preservation of these elements whilst bringing the building up to an acceptable standard of life safety as required by modern codes will prove to be the most challenging part of the project.

The original wooden sash windows are to be repaired and maintained in working order. Thermal upgrading by double glazing will be achieved by mounting additional interior glazing directly over the window frames.

The mechanical and electrical systems in the building are to be brought up to a modern standard without destroying the essential character and integrity of the building. Partially conditioned air and up to date electrical and communications services will be provided to all suites by the installation of removable modern elements and adaption of existing conduit and duct shafting.

It is hoped that the completed project will demonstrate generally attainable standards for the restoration and repair of similar buildings across the province as well as establishing a permanent home for provincial heritage groups. Completion of the project is presently anticipated in the Spring of 1987.

Spencer R. Higgins, Architect

Branch Directory and Activities 1985/86

Early in 1986 the ten branches of the A.C.O. were requested to send in their program of activities of the year past. The intent of this was to get an overall perspective of the many activities of the A.C.O. The results are impressive. The collective energy that the A.C.O. generates towards the conservation of the natural and man-made heritage is significant. A brochure has been printed of the results and may be obtained from the central Ontario Council office. Some of the results are as follows:

Branch Membership		Branch Foundings	
Brant	50	Brant	1977
Cambridge	180	Cambridge	1970
Durham	27	Durham	1985
Hamilton	60	Hamilton	1965
Huron	36	Huron	1974
London	110	London	1966
Port Hope	200	Port Hope	1964
Quinte	76	Quinte	1983
Toronto	500	Toronto	1970
Waterloo	59	Waterloo	1980

Publications

ACORN magazine — A twenty-four page magazine published three times a year by the A.C.O.

Walking Tour of Hespeler — A four page monograph on the historic buildings of Hespeler.

(Heritage Cambridge)

The Battle to Save Preston Public School —

An account of how public interest recycled a historic school into a senior citizens apartment complex — (Heritage Cambridge)

Pollock Map of Galt — A reproduction of the 1867 street map of Galt. (Heritage Cambridge)

Architectural Terms —

— by Marion Walker Garland (Port Hope)

Check The Style of Ontario Architecture —

— by Marion Walker Garland (Port Hope)

Historic Port Hope 1834-1984

— by the Port Hope Branch

Walk Today With Yesterday

(Port Hope)

Special Events

Cambridge — Creation of a Community Heritage Fund of \$45,000.00 to assist in the preservation of historic structures in the City of Cambridge.

Hamilton — Thomas B. McQuesten Award for excellence in architectural restoration. Two awards were made: to Park Place in Hamilton and the Court House Theatre in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

London — Contribution of \$6,000.00 to the Separate School Board to enable the installation of period lighting in the recently restored London Normal School.

Port Hope — Completion of the restoration of the C.N.R. station and gala ribbon cutting ceremony.

Toronto — Exhibition of historic Toronto banks.

Walking Tours

Brant — Glenhyrst

Durham — Whitby, Port Perry, Brooklin

London — London South

Quinte — Picton, Trenton, Napanee, Tweed, Wellington, Lonsdale, Adolphustown, Brighton, Deseronto, Bath, Stirling, Belleville.

Waterloo — Doon, 5 house tours.

Bus Tours

Brant — Niagara-on-the-Lake

A.C.O. — Southwestern Ontario, Eastern Ontario.

Canadian Centre For Architecture

First instalment of a four million grant to the Canadian Centre for Architecture

The Minister of Communications of Canada, the

Honourable Marcel Masse, presented on March 14, 1986, the first instalment of a four million grant from his Department, for the construction of the Canadian Centre for Architecture in Montreal, whose official opening is scheduled for the spring of 1988.

AROUND AND ABOUT ONTARIO

AUBURN

Historic Huron County Bridge to be Preserved

The Huron Branch of the A.C.O. and Nicholas Hill, President of the A.C.O., were just two of a number of groups and people who urged successfully to preserve the historic Ball's Bridge near Auburn.

The bridge is built in cast iron and comprises two spans. It was built in c. 1870 by the Hamilton Bridge Company. Out of the 101 bridges in Huron County, Ball's Bridge is the last and only bridge that has not been renewed since the County's bridge upgrading program commenced in 1942. With increasingly heavier and wider traffic, especially farm implements, the bridge is no longer functional for today's needs. At a public meeting on April 11 at the Auburn Community Centre, five alternatives for dealing with the problem were presented by County Engineer Bob Dempsey and Ken Dunn of D. M. Ross and Associates, Consulting Engineers. The most favoured alternative, which was supported by the County Council, was to leave the existing Ball's Bridge and build a new and larger bridge downstream. Council also agreed to provide an average of \$6,200.00 a year to maintain Ball's Bridge for the next 10 years. The situation will then be reassessed. Council's agreement did stipulate however that if the bridge is destroyed in any way it will not be replaced.

The preservation of Ball's Bridge is a happy conclusion for an historic industrial structure. It is a favourite place for people to visit and pause awhile in the peace and quiet of the valley of the Maitland River. The bridge is also a favourite place for local fishermen and canoeists. Nicholas Hill has a personal interest in the future of the bridge as his country home is the former Ball stone farmhouse that sits high up on a hill overlooking the river and bridge.

LACAC Workshop

This year the Architectural Conservancy and the Ministry of Citizenship and Culture cooperated to hold a LACAC workshop, and the Annual General Meeting of the A.C.O., on the same weekend. A roster of first class speakers and the superb setting

of the Royal Botanical Gardens combined to make the workshop, "The LACAC in the Community", an outstanding success. The one-day conference was organized by the Heritage Branch and moderated by Sheila K. Larmer, Supervisor of Architecture and Heritage Planning.

The theme of the morning session was "Working Within the Municipal System". Dr. Gary Davidson, Director of Planning and Development for Huron County spoke first. He pointed out that the heritage movement in most communities has passed beyond the advocacy stage and was now integrated into the Municipal bureaucracy. What is most needed in this second stage is the ability to operate within the system in a professional and effective manner. Alderman Jane Brewer of Cambridge described how a persistent campaign of public education can increase local sensitivity to the importance of heritage in relation to matters such as site plans and zoning. Toronto Historical Board architect Michael McClelland spoke on the subject of working with property owners. Again, success derives from public education, but more specifically from understanding the concerns of the owner. In some cases, demolition may be the only sensible course of action, even where a designated building is involved.

"Developing Community Support" was the title of the afternoon session. A. K. Sculthorpe, Vice President of the Port Hope branch of the A.C.O., outlined the many activities which her group had found successful in this regard. Of particular interest was the Colour Programme whereby a selection of nineteenth century colours was made available. Building owners can choose period colours and at the same time save half the price of their paint job.

In the closing presentation, Ms. Janet Fayle and Dr. D. Fayle of Richmond Hill took the issue of public education back to its logical starting point, the school system. Since the Ministry of Education is currently revising its curriculum, now would be a good time to have heritage conservation included in the environmental studies programme. At the moment, early exposure to the value of our built heritage is strictly hit and miss.

Margaret Goodbody

COMING EVENTS AND NEW PUBLICATIONS

The Heritage Canada Foundation

The Heritage Canada Foundation's Thirteenth Annual Conference "The Role of Volunteers in Heritage Preservation" — September 25-28, 1986,

Chateau Laurier, Ottawa, Ontario. Please write: The Heritage Canada Foundation Annual Meeting, P.O. Box 1358, Station B, Ottawa, Ontario K1P 5R4.

1986 Pre-Conference Training Courses

The Association for Preservation Technology will hold its pre-conference training courses in Austin, Texas, September 29 - October 1, 1986. Three courses will be offered:

Methods and Standards for the Conservation of Historic Bridges: A Working Seminar. The course will present the history of bridge construction in North America, outline survey and documentation techniques and discuss preservation procedures. Faculty and participants will formulate a working draft of APT Guidelines for bridge preservation.

Manufactured Building Hardware, 1840 - 1920. The course will present the history and use of manufactured building hardware from 1840 to 1920. Methods and techniques for documenting hardware on historic buildings will be explored and modern catalog reproductions and ap-

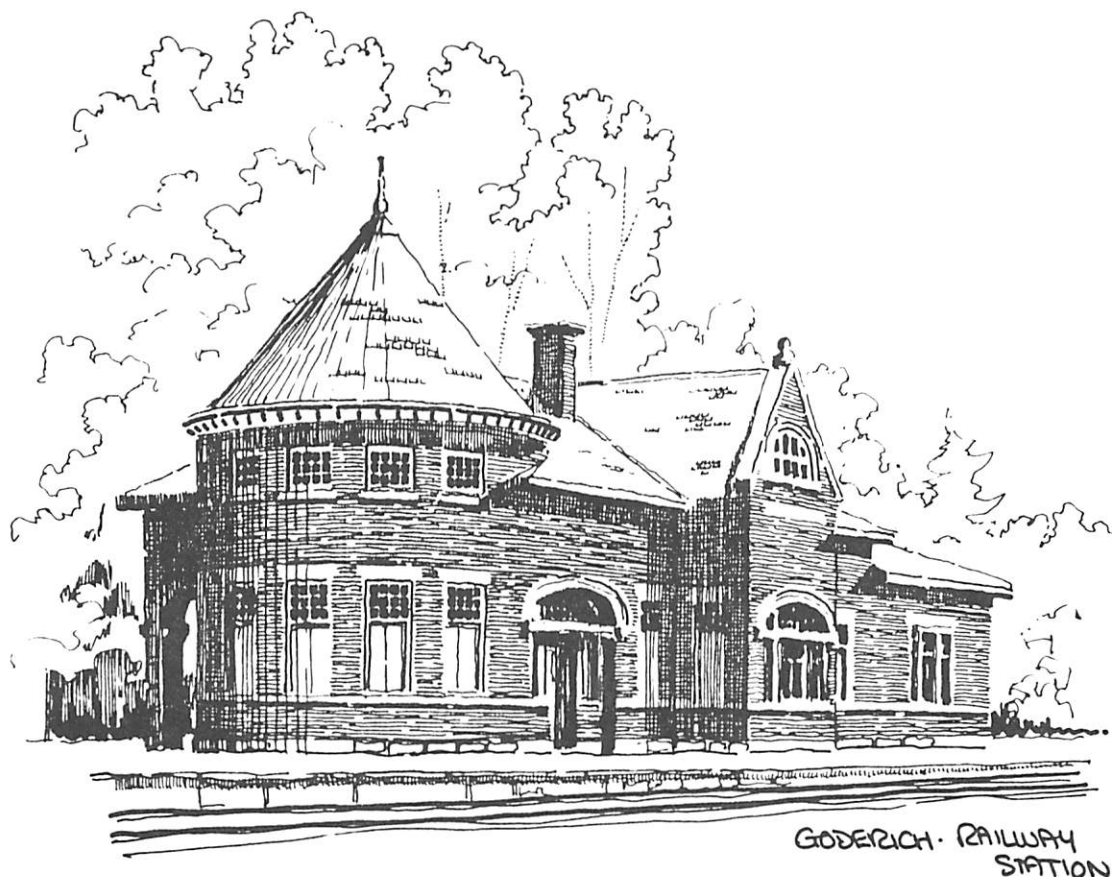
proached for custom reproduction, repair and restoration will be discussed.

Preservation Is Maintenance. The course is designed to improve the diagnostic and technical maintenance of those responsible for the care of historic buildings. A distinguished faculty will outline the major causes of building deterioration, illustrate a systematic approach to identify building problems, to establish maintenance priorities and to schedule maintenance, and present appropriate maintenance techniques.

Enrolment is limited. For additional information contact: Training Course Chairman, APT Austin '86, P.O. Box 2593, Austin, Texas 78768-2593.

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